

EXHIBIT 5



Deposition of:

Audio 2

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In the Matter of:

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800-734-5292 | calendar-dmv@veritext.com |

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JOHN STOSSEL

VIA FACEBOOK

GOVERNMENT FUELED FIRES

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

Job No. 4956927

Transcribed By: Pamela A. Skaw

1 MR. STOSSEL: A large part of America is on fire.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's Mother Earth is angry.

3 MR. STOSSEL: Why would Mother Earth be angry?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Because of climate change.

5 MR. STOSSEL: Politicians are eager to blame the
6 fires on climate change.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The debate is over around
8 climate change.

9 MR. STOSSEL: California's Governor smiles while
10 he talks about it.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All of this cataphies
12 around climate change is just a huge distraction.

13 MR. STOSSEL: Michael Schellenberger,
14 environmentalist, who Time Magazines calls a hero of the
15 environment; says it's silly to blame the fires on climate
16 change.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Climate change is real.
18 It's not the end of the world. It's not our most serious
19 environmental problem.

20 MR. STOSSEL: And it's not the main cause of the
21 California fires.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Governor Newsome tweeted
23 out that last year we have one-tenth of the area burned as
24 we're having this year and therefore it's climate change.

25 It's like well what? Did climate change happen

1 between last year and this year?

2 None of this makes any sense.

3 MR. STOSSEL: But the media keep talking about a
4 climate change apocalypse.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Climate apocalypse.

6 If all you have is a hammer, everything looks like
7 a nail.

8 If you -- all you know is climate scientists, then
9 every weather event you blame on climate change.

10 MR. STOSSEL: If not climate change, what is to
11 blame?

12 AUDIO CLIP: Only you can prevent forest fires.

13 MR. STOSSEL: Foolish policies. For years,
14 governments put out every fire they could.

15 But if you want to protect forests --

16 AUDIO CLIP: Tens of millions of acres should have
17 naturally burned every ten years or so in lots of fires with
18 smaller flames but we put most of those out.

19 MR. STOSSEL: This is the overgrowth that's been
20 accumulating in these forests for the past century because
21 people have been putting out fires instead of letting them
22 burn the way they naturally used to.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So now when there is a
24 fire, it's much more likely to burn out of control.

25 MR. STOSSEL: Climate change has made things

1 worse. California's warmed three degrees over 50 years.
2 But --

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You could have had this
4 amount of warming and not had these fires and the reason we
5 know that is because the forests that were well managed have
6 survived the mega fires.

7 MR. STOSSEL: Like this forest controlled by
8 Southern California Edison.

9 So far, selective cutting protested it.

10 And now the forest service is trying to educate
11 people.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It looks like a very well
13 managed forest. I would agree.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, let's burn it.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right.

16 (Music)

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Describe burning and
18 frequent fire is a must if we're going to maintain a
19 biodiversity in the plant life.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When Europeans came, we
21 have these reports of California just being very smoky and
22 on fire during the summers. Native Americans were burning
23 huge amounts of land.

24 MR. STOSSEL: So for the past years it's been
25 unnaturally un-smoky.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We haven't had enough fires
2 for maybe a hundred years.

3 MR. STOSSEL: But it really sucks if you live
4 there. The smoke is bad.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But it's what a lot of
6 forest ecosystems require.

7 MR. STOSSEL: Recently fire hit the ancient
8 redwoods.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Everyone on the east coast
10 goes, oh, my God. These ancient redwoods are going to burn
11 down.

12 MR. STOSSEL: They're trees. They're not going to
13 burn down.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The smaller trees do, of
15 course, burn down. But, when you're talking about redwood
16 trees and other old growth, the bark is very thick. It's
17 fire resistant.

18 In fact, there's a particular kind of ancient
19 redwood where the inside of it has been entirely burned out
20 and it's still alive and you can see green growth shooting
21 out of it.

22 MR. STOSSEL: This surprised the politicians.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Gavin Newsome visited the
24 park and said what a miracle.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They're still standing.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's exactly what you would
2 expect.

3 MR. STOSSEL: Not if you're a journalist.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Two days later, all the
5 journalists started to kind of go, oh, wow. What a
6 surprise. The ancient redwoods didn't burn down.

7 Nobody's more alienated from the natural
8 environment and really nobody's more apocalyptic than
9 environmental journalists.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We have to get away from
11 just sort of the tree hugging mentality.

12 You have to look at the whole -- it's the classic,
13 you know, not seeing the forest for the trees.

14 (Cutting noise)

15 MR. STOSSEL: This year's fires finally persuaded
16 California's politicians to allow more people to cut trees
17 down.

18 (Cutting noise)

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's actually widespread
20 agreement on this. In fact, the Governor of California and
21 President Trump recently signed an agreement to clear much
22 more area.

23 Even the Sierra Club, which has opposed this kind
24 of thinning of forests, has now changed its tune.

25 MR. STOSSEL: It's about time. They had policies

1 were the biggest cause of this year's fires, not the
2 slightly warmer climate.

3 And while climate change is a problem,
4 Schellenberger's new book explains, it's not an apocalypse.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Natural disasters aren't
6 getting worse. In fact, they're getting better. The number
7 of deaths from natural disasters has declined over 90
8 percent over the last hundred years.

9 A small change in temperature is not the
10 difference between normalcy and catastrophe.

11 (Music)

12 (End of audio.)
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Pamela Skaw, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

/s/ Pamela Skaw

Pamela Skaw

DATE: November 23, 2021